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NEWS RELEASE

TAYLORSVILLE MAN INDICTED FOR INSURANCE FRAUD

Allegedly lied about health status when applying for coverage with Anthem

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Dec. 14, 2007) – A Taylorsville man has been indicted on a felony count of insurance fraud after allegedly lying on an application for health insurance coverage.

According to court documents, Douglas Richardson, 37, applied for health insurance with Anthem Health Plans of Kentucky Inc. (Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield) in September 2005. During the application process, he allegedly did not disclose pre-existing health conditions and collected about \$9,700 in health insurance benefits to which he was not entitled.

He faces a maximum prison sentence of five years and/or a fine of \$10,000. A pre-trial hearing is scheduled for Feb. 26 in Jefferson Circuit Court. The case against Richardson was developed by the Insurance Fraud Investigation Division of the Kentucky Office of Insurance, an agency of the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet.

Insurance fraud costs Americans at least \$80 billion each year, or nearly \$950 per family, according to the Coalition Against Insurance Fraud.